



CATALOGUE NO. 6321.0
EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30 A.M. 19 AUGUST 1991
INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, AUSTRALIA, MAY 1991

MAIN FEATURES

In May 1991-

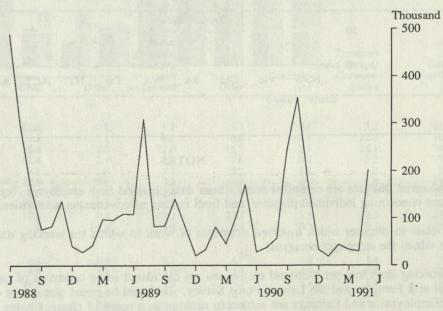
- There were 114 disputes reported in progress involving 193,900 employees and the loss of 202,100 working days. The number of employees involved and working days lost have increased significantly since April 1991, from 22,800 and 30,300 respectively.
- The Metal products, machinery and equipment manufacturing industry reported 172,100 working days lost, accounting for 85.2 per cent of all time lost in May. This is the highest figure for this industry since October 1990 when 225,200 working days were lost.
- Of the States, New South Wales reported 137,400 working days lost, 68.0 per cent of the total

working days lost. Western Australia reported 39,100 working days lost, an increase of 35,900 over the previous month when 3,200 working days were reported lost.

In the twelve months ending May 1991-

- A total of 1,180 disputes were in progress, involving 757,300 employees and the loss of 1,272,100 working days.
- The Coal mining industry reported 117,700 working days lost, the lowest figure for a twelve month period since August 1984 (115,400). Working days lost in the Metal products, machinery and equipment manufacturing industry continued to increase with 693,200, the highest for this industry since the twelve months to August 1982 (785,700).

CHART 1. WORKING DAYS LOST, AUSTRALIA



Source: Table 1

INQUIRIES

• for information about other ABS statistics and services please contact Information Services on Canberra (06) 252 6627, 252 5402, 252 6007 or any ABS State Office.

[•] for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics contact Brenda McMorrow on Canberra (06) 252 6561 or any ABS State office.

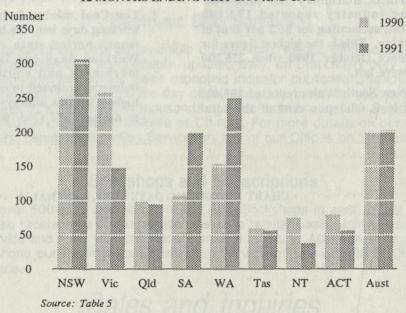
• New South Wales and Western Australia both reported high points in working days lost for the twelve month period. New South Wales (667,100) is the highest since July 1989 (684,600) and Western Australia (134,600) is the highest since September 1989 (158,000). Victoria reported 254,900 working days lost, the lowest since May 1988, when 249,900 days lost were reported.

In terms of working days lost per thousand employees:

 The Coal mining industry reported a figure of 3,721, the lowest for this industry since October

- 1984 (3,543). In contrast, the Metal products, machinery and equipment manufacturing industry with 1,718 working days lost per thousand employees is the highest since May 1982 (1,805).
- New South Wales reported the highest number of working days lost per thousand employees (306) followed by Western Australia with 251.

CHART 2. WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES, 12 MONTHS ENDING MAY 1990 AND 1991



NOTES

Statistics of industrial disputes are compiled mainly from data obtained from employers (both private and public sector) and trade unions concerning individual disputes, and from reports of government authorities.

The statistics relate to disputes which involved stoppages of work in which ten working days or more were lost at the establishments where the stoppages occurred.

Statistics on working days lost per thousand employees are calculated using estimates of employment from the Survey of Employment and Earnings and the Labour Force Survey. It should be noted that recent employment estimates from the Survey of Employment and Earnings are subject to revision as a result of changes being made to the ABS's register of businesses. This may result in revisions to estimates of working days lost per thousand employees. For further details refer to the explanatory notes of the publication *Employed Wage and Salary Earners*, Australia (6248.0).

Explanatory Notes and a Glossary are published on pages 6 to 8 of this publication.

TABLE 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN PROGRESS: AUSTRALIA(a)

		Number of a	lisputes(b)	En	nployees inv ('000)	volved	ACT Mains I	
Period	and his unique	Commenced in period	Total(c)	Newly involved(d)		Total(c)	Working days lost ('000)	
The state of the s	ELL	1.072	TITET EAT	8 8 8 3 1	0.4877	0.810	\$45 InqA22	
1990—			2.8			5.86	A THE RESERVE OF THE PERSON OF	
March		112	127	20.0		44.2	46.1	
April		79	84	68.6		69.2	100.8	
May		117	137	116.9		149.3	171.2	
June		94	104	22.2		23.9	29.1	
July		94	109	34.3		36.9	38.6	
August		117	125	48.4		49.4	57.7	
September		110	121	218.9		232.3	244.9	
October		130	151	95.7		276.7	355.1	
November		106	137	18.9		233.4	183.0	
December		52	60	21.5		29.2	34.1	
1991—								
January		77	80	10.0		12.7	19.3	
February		101	116	40.5		45.2	44.1	
March r		101	116	31.3		33.9	33.7	
April		r81	r90	21.9		22.8	30.3	
May		103	114	192.0		193.9	202.1	
Twelve mo	nths ended—							
May	1989	1,500	1,521	909.6		920.2	1,664.4	
	1990	1,244	1,264	788.8		794.3	1,261.3	
	1991	1,166	1,180	755.5		757.3	1,272.1	
December	1988	1,502	1,508	893.9		894.4	1,641.4	
	1989	1,391	1,402	706.4		709.8	1,202.4	
	1990	1,189	1,193	725.9		729.9	1,376.5	

⁽a) More detailed information by State and industry is available on request. (b) See paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes. (c) Refers to all disputes in progress during the period. (d) Comprises employees involved in disputes which commenced during the month and additional employees involved in disputes which continued from the previous month.

TABLE 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN PROGRESS: INDUSTRY, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST(a)

					('000)									
				Manufacturing						A				
							Mi	ning	Metal products, machinery and	iską ladas discavos dispubliosos paga sada	Construc-	Transport and storage; Commun-	Other industries	All
Period			Coal	Other	equipment	Other	tion	ication	(b)	industries				
1990—														
March April			12.5 3.5	0.8	1.3 0.6	5.7 6.6	0.9	3.2 52.9	21.7 16.9	46.1 100.8				
May June			18.4 12.4	11.2	21.0 2.9	15.7 1.6	2.1	28.1	74.7 7.2	171.2 29.1				
July			7.1	1.6	5.3	5.2 12.7	8.8 4.8	1.7 2.6	8.9 17.4	38.6 57.7				
August September			12.1 13.6	2.9 15.9	5.2 172.4	16.8	5.6	1.9	18.7 29.2	244.9 355.1				
October November			17.6 17.3	35.8 9.4	225.2 93.3	28.8 23.8	8.7 3.7	9.7 1.1	34.4	183.0				
December			7.4	0.3	4.4	2.8	0.3	0.5	18.4	34.1				
1991— January			4.8	0.9	2.1	4.9	4.0	1.4	1.2	19.3				
February March			8.8 r8.1	1.9	3.0 3.8	12.4 3.7	4.9 8.8	0.8 1.4	12.3	44.1 r33.7				
April May		*	3.5 5.0	2.7 2.9	3.4 172.1	10.9 13.6	5.3 2.7	2.6 3.1	1.7 2.7	30.3 202.1				
Twelve mo	onths ender	d—												
May	1989 1990		414.4 161.8	80.6 39.7	351.4 150.4	162.9 159.6	174.8 114.5	90.7 150.0	389.6 485.3	1,664.4 1,261.3				
THE TER	1991		117.7	77.8	693.2	137.2	58.1	29.2	158.9	1,272.1				
December	1989		471.3 164.8	97.4 34.2	309.5 201.1	117.4 186.7	207.9 117.0	75.0 70.7 129.9	362.9 427.9 277.5	1,641.4 1,202.4 1,376.5				
	1990		150.5	86.7	536.3	133.4	62.2	129.9	211.5	1,370.3				

⁽a) More detailed industry information is available on request. (b) Comprises Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting; Electricity, gas and water; Wholesale and retail trade; Finance, property and business services; Public administration and defence; Community services; Recreation, personal and other services.

TABLE 3. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN PROGRESS : STATES AND TERRITORIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST(a) (*000)

			Same and the Agent		(000)								
Period		NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust			
1990—													
March		21.6	13.5	3.2	4.2	2.9	0.7	0.1		46.1			
April		5.0	69.0	5.9	8.3	7.7	3.1	0.4	1.3	100.8			
May		86.2	42.1	15.4	18.9	8.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	171.2			
June		14.3	2.4	3.5	1.1	3.1	0.3	_	4.3	29.1			
July		19.9	9.9	3.5	1.7	2.3	1.1	新加州市	0.1	38.6			
August		15.9	15.4	13.3	5.8	6.4	0.7	_	0.1	57.7			
September	r.	154.6	31.5	14.2	34.7	9.8	_ 40			244.9			
October		180.2	78.4	17.8	31.7	43.6	3.0	0.3	0.1	355.1			
November	to The said	88.6	49.9	16.2	14.4	13.4	0.4	0.1	_	183.0			
December		6.3	19.4	3.0	1.1	2.2	0.8	_	1.4	34.1			
1991—													
January		7.2	4.9	2.3	0.3	4.6		_		19.3			
February		21.6	12.3	3.1	2.8	4.3	_	_	_	44.1			
March		r13.6	7.9	3.9	5.4	2.5	0.3	0.1	0.1	r33.7			
April		7.6	9.4	3.4	3.8	3.2	0.5	1.5	0.9	30.3			
May		137.4	13.4	5.4	4.8	39.1	1.6	0.3	0.1	202.1			
Twelve mo	onths ended-	10.00											
May	1989	767.4	402.7	244.5	49.9	163.0	16.6	8.1	12.0	1,664.4			
	1990	546.6	449.4	100.3	57.0	83.7	9.6	4.8	9.9	1,261.3			
	1991	667.1	254.9	89.6	107.5	134.6	8.7	2.4	7.2	1,272.1			
December	1988	720.1	2626	200.5	47.0	1606	196	0.0	14.1	1 641 4			
December		730.1	362.6	299.5	47.0	160.6	18.6	8.9	14.1	1,641.4			
	1989	589.6	348.4	100.5	35.0	102.1	10.2	6.9	9.6	1,202.4			
	1990	622.9	391.2	107.9	125.8	108.4	10.7	1.7	7.9	1,376.5			

⁽a) State by industry information is available on request.

TABLE 4. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN PROGRESS : BY INDUSTRY, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES(a)

			Manufa	acturing				
	Mining		Metal products, machinery and		Construc-	Transport and storage; Commun-	Other industries	All
Period	Coal	Other	equipment	Other	tion	ication	(b)	industries
Twelve months ended—	more more		O Antonio	sans rans	o sola			AV 115-73 ;
1987— December 1988—	8,920	1,072	479	305	743	217	70	223
December 1989—	15,548	1,777	750	183	725	177	85	269
December	5,505	642	473	283	374	160	97	190
1989— May	13,812	1,488	842	253	596	212	90	268
1990—								
March April May June	5,924 6,316 5,423 5,054	585 640 746 620	416 407 353 285	230 258 244 216	361 429 357 317	174 318 340 338	105 105 109 109	188 205 198 185
July August September	4,432 4,401 4,590	612 623 866	163 123 524	196 196 191	211 213 207	317 309 308	77 76 72	143 139 165
October November December	4,657 4,747 4,879	1,521 1,654 1,631	1,056 1,275 1,293	224 215 212	212 216 204	313 309 299	56 58 62	198 215 217
1991— January February March April May	4,746 4,326 r4,155 r4,150 3,721	1,628 1,609 1,616 r1,623 1,463	1,304 1,309 1,324 1,337 1,718	215 219 217 225 222	208 209 238 196 199	262 244 240 124 67	62 58 55 52 36	215 210 208 197 202

⁽a) See paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Comprises Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting; Electricity, gas and water; Wholesale and retail trade; Finance, property and business services; Public administration and defence; Community services; Recreation, personal and other services.

TABLE 5. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN PROGRESS : STATES AND TERRITORIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES(a)

Period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
Twelve months end	led—	SQUESTIE COLUMN	中国经验工程	10	ertalnias sais	les cienties des	iga jama w	sounial so	Bon in
1987—									
December 1988—	366	172	87	91	213	177	110	143	223
December 1989—	341	214	336	93	299	118	158	112	269
December	269	199	102	67	187	64	111	77	190
1989—									
May	356	233	261	98	302	104	138	97	268
1990—								adhoic alsos	
March	248	225	90	64	195	60	88	71	188
April	254	276	97	79	180	64	85	87	205
May	248	257	101	107	153	59	74	79	198
June	229	239	100	103	139	60	72	113	185
July	157	185	99	101	116	60	60	107	143
August	147	183	102	102	116	61	56	94	139
September	204	189	106	162	109	61	30	68	165
October	255	205	109	218	184	64	29	52	198
November	281	220	115	234	198	63	27	51	215
December	283	226	111	236	200	67	26	62	217
1991—									
January	285	216	110	234	203	67	24	61	215
February	283	201	105	233	201	66	17	60	210
March	280	198	106	236	201	r64	17	60	208
April	r282	163	104	227	193	47	33	57	197
May	306	147	94	200	251	56	37	56	202

⁽a) See paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 6. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES ENDING IN THE 12 MONTHS TO MAY 1991 : AUSTRALIA, REPORTED CAUSE, DURATION AND METHOD OF SETTLEMENT(a)

about wings; and twomy), approximately work prooffices approximately soft approxi- call mechanistic bosonic months are the	Number of disputes	Employees involved (directly and indirectly) ('000)	Working days lost ('000)
- 17 loan pentakan dengangan peksagaan	rections and triving	CAUSE OF DISPUTE	outes was chanced in Dece
Wages	106	47.6	108.7
Hours of work	19	and the same was a series of the same same	4.4
Leave, pensions, compensation	51	10.6	34.4
Managerial policy	587	449.3	848.3
Physical working conditions	192	27.3	55.9
Trade unionism	162	20.9	37.3
Other(b)	51	34.3	28.7
Total	1,168	593.0	1,117.8
THE LE WAR THE SENDENCE OF	D D	URATION OF DISPUTE	ance with the character in
Up to and including 1 day	823	339.0	295.6
Over 1 and up to and including 2 days	150	208.9	522.4
Over 2 and less than 5 days	93	25.4	92.1
5 and less than 10 days	72	12.8	82.6
10 and less than 20 days	22	4.5	58.0
20 days and over *	8	2.4	67.0
Total	1,168	593.0	1,117.8
mark bandolog for adject one o	ME	THOD OF SETTLEMENT	
Negotiation	175	54.8	104.6
State legislation	119	88.2	164.4
Federal and joint Federal-State legislation	127	119.3	297.2
Resumption without negotiation	726	327.9	543.6
Other methods	21	2.8	7.9
Total	1,168	593.0	1,117.8

⁽a) More detailed information by State and industry is available on request. (b) Includes disputes not elsewhere categorised.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

The statistics in this publication relate to disputes which involved stoppages of work of ten working days or more at the establishments where the stoppages occurred. Ten working days is equivalent to the amount of ordinary time worked by ten people in one day, regardless of the length of stoppage, for example, 3,000 workers on strike for 2 hours would be counted as 750 working days lost (assuming they work an 8 hour day).

- 2. The statistics of working days lost relate to the losses due to industrial disputes only (as defined in paragraph 2 of the Glossary). Effects on other establishments, such as stand-downs because of lack of materials, disruption of transport services, power cuts, etc. are not included.
- 3. The statistics of industrial disputes are compiled mainly from data obtained from employers (both private and public sector), from trade unions and from reports of government authorities. Particulars of some stoppages may have been estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving only a broad measure of the extent of industrial disputes as defined above.

Change in methodology

- 4. The basis for the calculation of working days lost per thousand employees was changed in January 1987 to include estimates of employees from the Survey of Employment and Earnings. They are combined with estimates of the number of employees in agriculture and in private households, obtained from the Labour Force Survey. Estimates have been recalculated on this basis for each month back to June 1984 and are available on request. In issues of this publication prior to January 1987, the estimates of numbers of employees were based entirely on Labour Force Survey data. The effect of the change is minimal at the 'all industries' level but is quite significant, in some cases, for individual industry groups.
- The basis for the calculation of the number of disputes was changed in December 1987 (see paragraph 2 of the Glossary). Before that date, where the causes of several disputes were the same (e.g. National Wage Case disputes) the disputes were counted as one dispute in each State or Territory in which they occurred, irrespective of whether they were directed or organised by one person or organisation, or whether the dispute occurred in more than one industry. The reason for the change was to align the method of counting the number of disputes with the International Labour Organisation guidelines. In accordance with this change in definition, estimates of the number of disputes shown in this bulletin for past periods have been revised. In issues of this publication prior to September 1988, the number of disputes were counted on the old basis. Unpublished estimates of the number of disputes have been revised on the new basis from January 1985 and are available on request. The number of employees involved and working days lost remain unchanged.

Reliability of estimates

6. Inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in information provided by respondents or in processing by the ABS. Although considerable care is taken in questionnaire design; in the instructions given to respondents; and in editing the returns; these inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample.

Other ABS publications

7. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

Labour Statistics, Australia (6101.0) — issued annually The Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary (6202.0) — issued monthly

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0) — issued monthly Trade Union Statistics, Australia (6323.0) — issued annually

Trade Union Members, Australia, August 1990 (6325.0) Employed Wage and Salary Earners, Australia (6248.0) — issued quarterly

Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Australia (6312.0) — issued monthly

Unpublished statistics

- 8. A range of unpublished data is also available on request including dispute details at more detailed industry levels, cross-classified by States/Territories, and finer cause of dispute and method of settlement categories than those published. Considerable time series exist for most variables. Inquiries regarding data availability and associated charges should be directed to Brenda McMorrow on (06) 252 6561.
- 9. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- r estimates revised since last issue
- nil or rounded to zero
- 10. Where estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals,

Electronic services

DISCOVERY. Key *656# for selected current economic, social and demographic statistics.

AUSSTATS. Thousands of up-to-date time series are available on this ABS on-line service. For further information phone the AUSSTATS Help Desk on (062) 52 6017.

TELESTATS. This service provides:

- foreign trade statistics tailored to users' requirements. Further information is available on (062) 52 5404.
- text and tables for selected Main Economic Indicator publications. Further information is available on (06) 252 5405.

Floppy disk service

Selected ABS statistics are available on floppy disk. Further information is available on (062) 52 6684.

GLOSSARY

Cause of dispute

The statistics of causes of industrial disputes relate to the reported main cause of the stoppage of work and not necessarily all causes that may have been responsible for the stoppage of work. For these reasons, the statistics do not reflect the relative importance of all causes of disputes as perceived by both employers and employees. The causes are classified from information supplied by employers and according to standards determined by the International Labour Organisation. The classification of causes is as follows:

Wages. Claims involving general principles relating to wages e.g. increase (decrease) in wages; variation in method of payment or combined claims relating to wages, hours or conditions of work in which the claim about wages is deemed to be the most important. Combined claims in which other claims are deemed to be the most important are included under the relevant cause. Disputes over award restructuring are included under managerial policy.

Hours of work. Claims involving general principles relating to hours of work e.g. decrease (increase) in hours; distribution of hours.

Leave, pensions, compensation. Claims involving general principles relating to holiday and leave provisions; pension and retirement provisions; workers' compensation provisions; insertion of penal clause provisions in awards.

Managerial policy. Disputes concerning the exercise of managerial control by employers e.g. terms and conditions of employment (other than disputes specifically about wages and hours); new awards; award restructuring; work practices; principles of promotion or deployment of staff including roster complaints and retrenchments; disciplinary matters including alleged victimization of union officials; employment of particular persons; disagreement with managerial decisions.

Physical working conditions. Disputes concerning physical working conditions and safety issues e.g. protective clothing and equipment; first aid services; uncomfortable working conditions; lack of, or the condition of, amenities; claims for assistance; shortage or poor distribution of equipment or material; condition of equipment; new production methods and equipment; arduous physical tasks.

Trade unionism. Disputes concerning employment of nonunionists, inter-union and intra-union disputes; sympathy stoppages in support of employees in another industry; recognition of union activities.

Other. Disputes concerning protests directed against persons or situations other than those relating to the employer/employee relationship e.g. political matters; fining and gaoling of persons; lack of work; lack of ade-

quate transport; non-award public holidays; accidents and attendance at funerals. Stoppages for which no reason is given are also included in this category.

Disputes

- 2. For these statistics, an *industrial dispute* is defined as a withdrawal from work by a group of employees, or a refusal by an employer or a number of employers to permit some or all of their employees to work, each withdrawal or refusal being made in order to enforce a demand, to resist a demand, or to express a grievance.
- 3. A dispute affecting several establishments is counted as a single dispute if it is organised or directed by one person or organisation in each State or Territory in which it occurs; otherwise it is counted as a separate dispute at each establishment (in each State or Territory) and in each industry in which it occurred. Prior to December 1987 disputes were counted differently (refer to paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes for other details).
- 4. When there is a return to work between stoppages over the same issue, and the return to work is for less than two complete calendar months, the stoppages are counted as a single dispute. When the return to work is for two or more calendar months, the dispute is considered to have ended at the time of the return to work. Should a subsequent stoppage occur, it is counted as a new dispute.
- 5. Information is recorded concerning all industrial disputes where ten or more working days are lost (see paragraph 1 of the Explanatory Notes). Included in these statistics are the following types of industrial disputes:
 - unauthorised stopwork meetings;
 - · unofficial strikes;
 - sympathetic strikes (e.g. strikes in support of a group of workers already on strike);
 - political or protest strikes;
 - general strikes;
 - work stoppages initiated by employers (e.g. lockouts); and
 - rotating or revolving strikes (i.e. strikes which occur when workers at different locations take turns to stop work).

Excluded from these statistics are work-to-rules, goslows, bans (e.g. overtime bans) and sit-ins. In addition, industrial disputes in which employees resign are deemed to have been resolved. Statistics on those disputes will cease to be collected from the date of the employees' resignations.

Duration of dispute

6. The duration of a dispute is the average number of working days lost per employee involved in the dispute. The duration of the dispute is calculated by dividing the total number of working days lost in the dispute by the number of employees involved (both directly and indirectly).

Employees

- 7. Employees refer to wage and salary earners only. Excluded are persons who are self-employed (e.g. building sub-contractors, owner-drivers of trucks) and employers.
- 8. Employees directly involved are those who actually participated in the dispute in order to enforce or resist a demand or to express a grievance.
- 9. Employees indirectly involved are those who ceased work at the establishment where the stoppages occurred, but who are not themselves parties to the dispute. Employees who ceased work at establishments other than those where the stoppages occurred are excluded. See paragraph 2 of the Explanatory Notes.
- 10. Total employees involved for any period of time are obtained by adding together the number of employees involved in each dispute in the period. For any period of time the figures may include details of the same employees involved in more than one dispute. The longer the period of reference, the more chance there is of some double counting in the number of employees involved. Where there are varying numbers of employees involved during the progress of a dispute, the figures of employees involved relate to the largest number of individual employees involved on any one day. Generally, the total number of employees involved for each year will equal the sum of the total number of employees involved in the first month of a year plus the number of employees newly involved in subsequent months. Differences between monthly and annual totals can occur due to the temporary cessation of stoppages which resume in subsequent months. Employees re-involved in this type of dispute are not classified as employees newly involved in stoppages in the second period in which the dispute occurs.

Method of settlement

11. Statistics of the method of settlement of industrial disputes relate to the method directly responsible for ending the stoppage of work as reported and not necessarily to the method (or methods) responsible for settling all matters in dispute. For these reasons, they do not reflect the relative importance of the work of various industrial tribunals operating under State and Federal legislation. The classification of method of settlement is as follows:

Negotiation. Private negotiation between the parties involved, or their representatives, without the intervention or assistance of authorities constituted under State or Federal industrial legislation.

State legislation. Intervention or assistance of an industrial authority or authorities created by or constituted under State conciliation and arbitration or wages board legislation, or reference to such authorities or compulsory or voluntary conference. Intervention, assistance or advice of State government officials or inspectors.

Federal and joint Federal-State legislation. Compulsory or voluntary conference or by intervention or assistance, of, or reference to, the industrial relation commissions created by or constituted under the Industrial Relations Act, Coal Industry Acts, Stevedoring Industry Act, and other acts such as the Navigation Act; Public Service Arbitration Act. Intervention, assistance or advice of Federal government officials or inspectors.

Resumption without negotiation. This category may include some disputes which are settled subject to subsequent negotiation of a formal nature, such as industrial court hearings. Stop-work meetings are included, and this category may also include disputes settled by 'resumption' as stated, but about which no further information is available.

Other methods. Mediation; filling places of employees on strike or locked out; closing establishments permanently; dismissal or resignation of employees.

Working days lost

12. Working days lost refer to working days lost by employees directly and indirectly involved in the dispute and figures are generally as reported by parties to the dispute. For some disputes working days lost are estimated on the basis of the number of employees involved and the duration of the dispute.

Working days lost per thousand employees

13. Working days lost per thousand employees are calculated for the 12 month period from working days lost and estimates of employees obtained from the ABS Survey of Employment and Earnings and the ABS Labour Force Survey. Refer to paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes for details of the way in which these measures are calculated, and the change in the method of calculation from 1987.

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